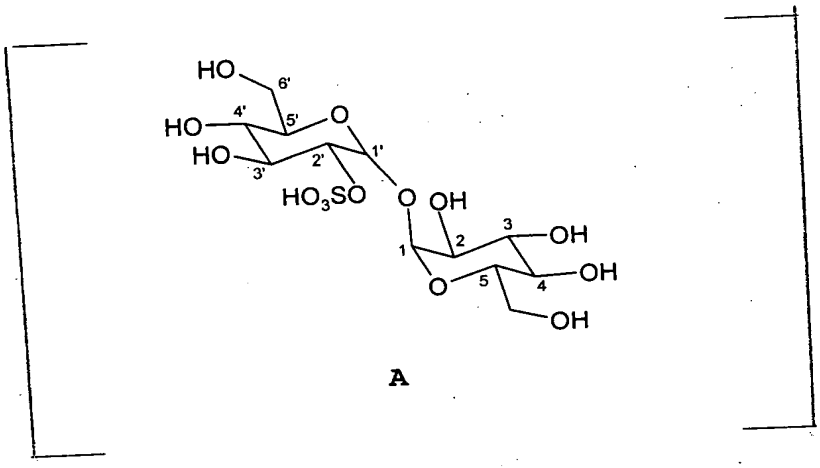
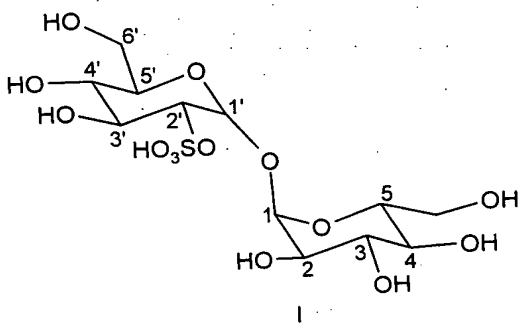
AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 15, with the following rewritten paragraph:

-- It seems that the mycobacterial envelope accounts for an important part of the virulence of bacteria of the *Mycobacterium* genus. Indeed, up to 40% of mycobacteria dry weight is constituted by lipids. Among those lipids, some of them seem restricted to *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*, such as sulfoglycolipids for instance (Vergne I. and Daffe M. *Frontiers in Bioscience* (1998) **3**:865-876). This family of glycolipid**s** is typified by a sulfate substituent on position 2′ of a trehalose unit (*i.e.* α-D-glucopyranosyl-(1-1′)-α′-D-glucopyranoside) (A).

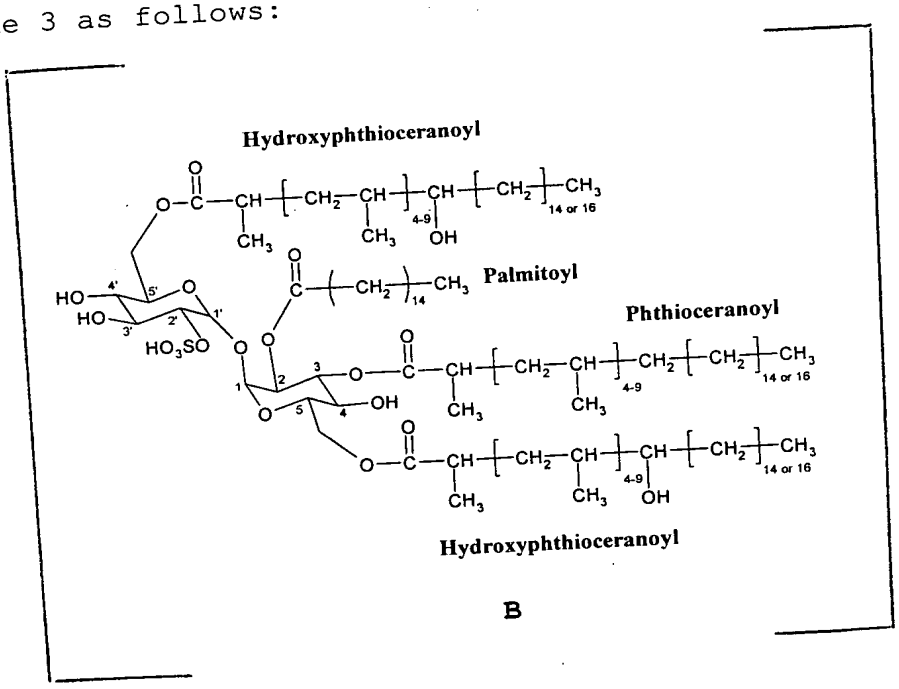


A

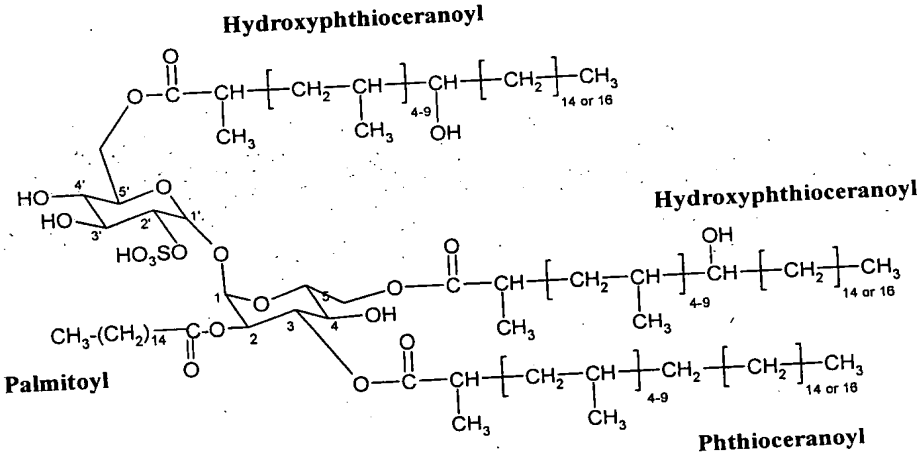


A

Please replace Formula B at the top of page 2 and before line 3 as follows:



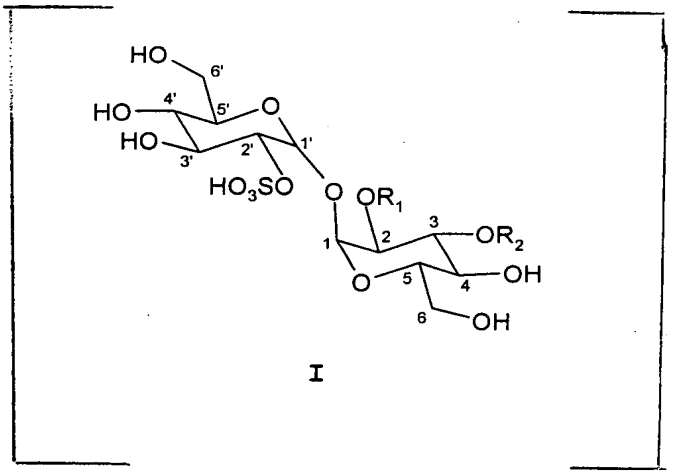
B



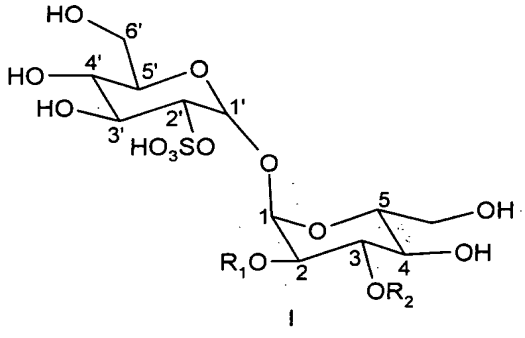
B

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 2, line 24, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--The invention relates to compounds of the following general formula (I):



I



I

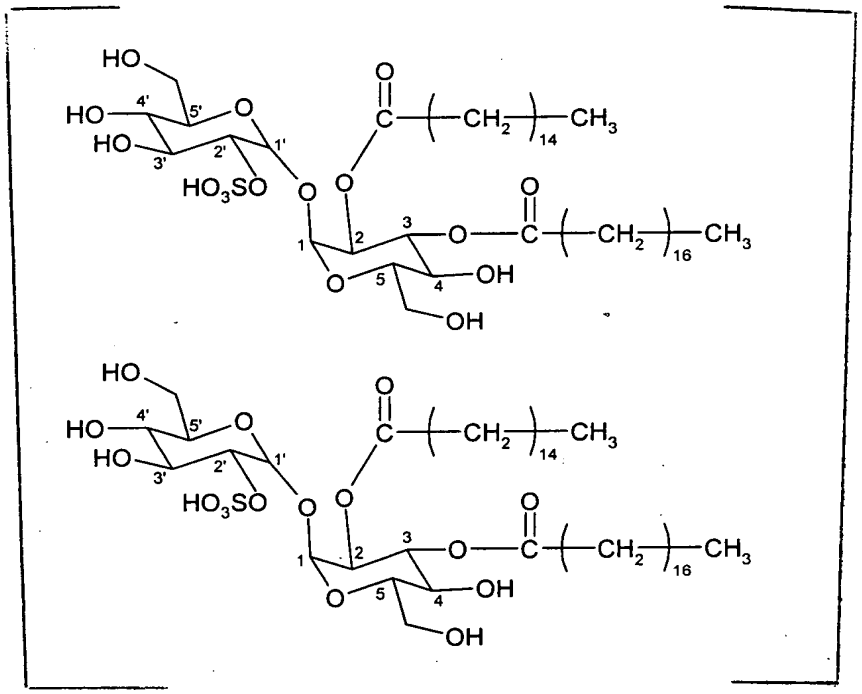
I

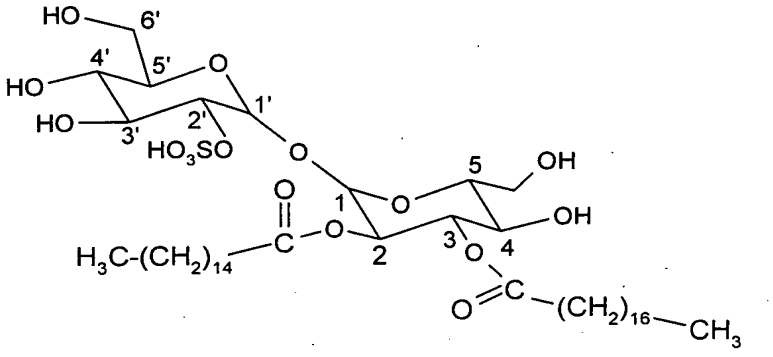
wherein R_1 and R_2 are fatty acyl groups.--

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 4, line 3, with the following rewritten paragraph:

-- The invention more particularly relates to compounds of formula I, wherein R_1 and R_2 are selected from the group

comprising palmitic acyl and stearic acyl, namely compounds of following formulae:



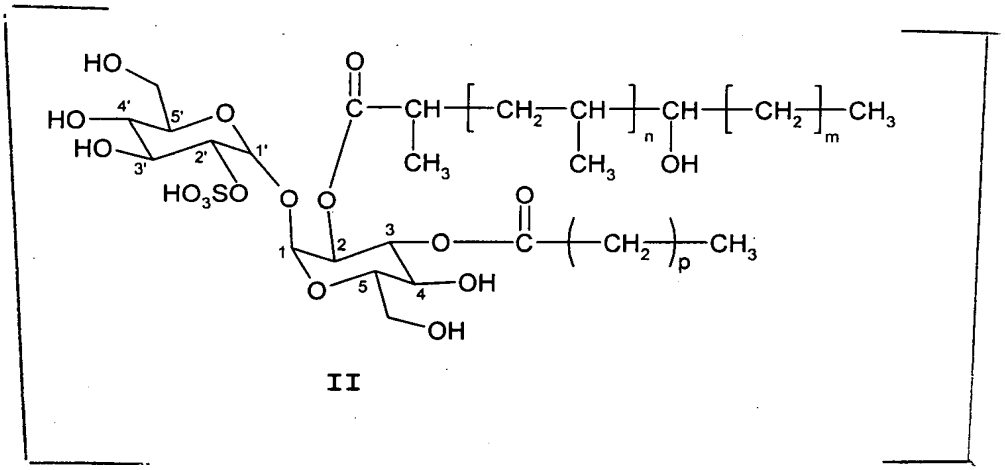


--

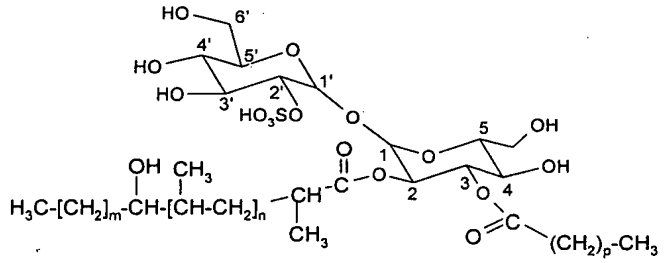
Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 4, line 12, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--The invention more particularly relates to compounds of formula I, wherein:

- R_1 represents a hydroxyphthioceranoic acyl group, and R_2 represents a palmitic acyl group or a stearic acyl group, namely compounds of following formula (II):



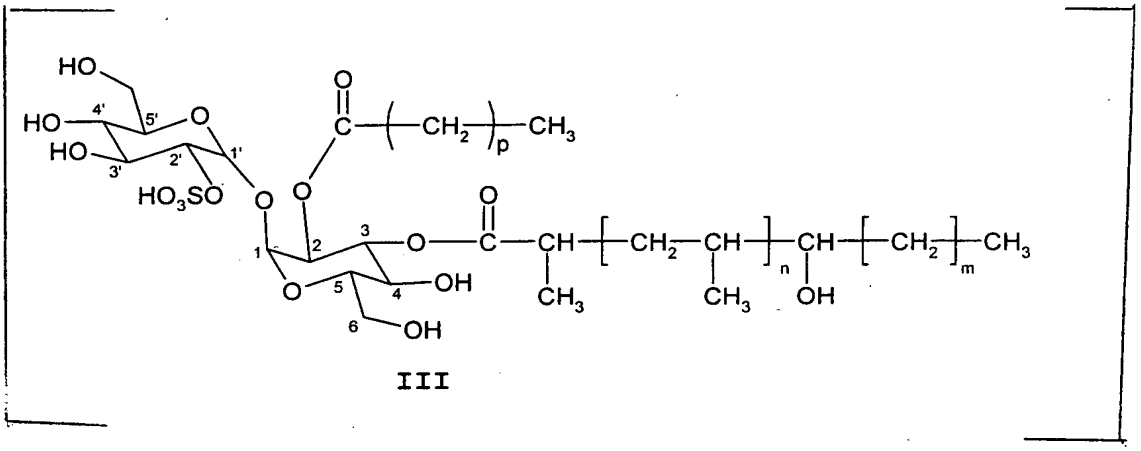
II



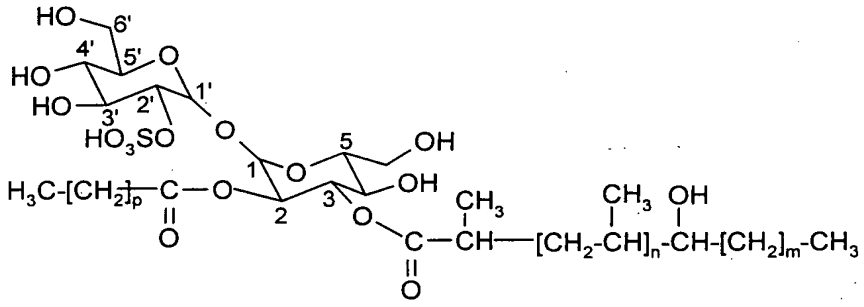
II

wherein p is 14 or 16, m is 14 or 16 and n is an integer from 2 to 10, or

- R_2 represents a hydroxyphthioceranoic acyl group, and R_1 represents a palmitic acyl group or a stearic acyl group, namely compounds of following formula (III):



III

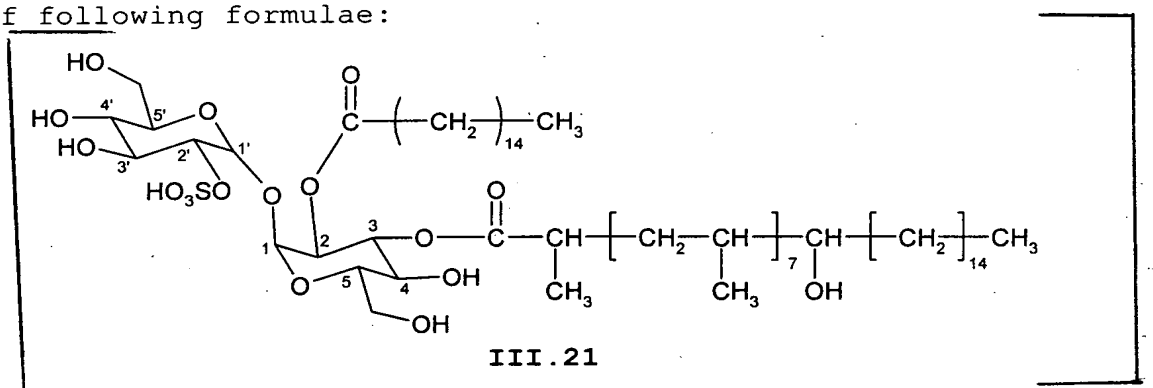


III

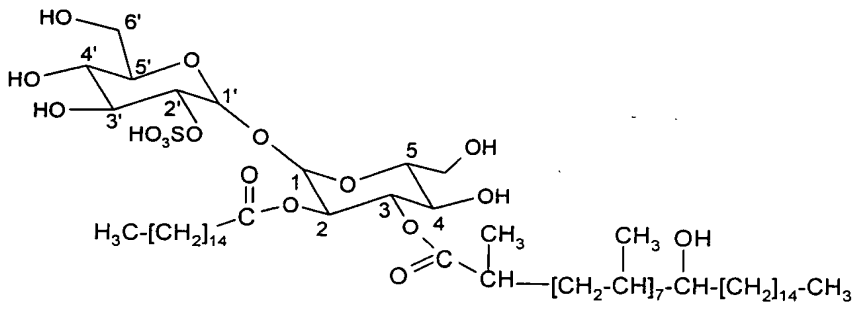
wherein p is 14 or 16, m is 14 or 16 and n is an integer from 2 to 10.—

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 7, line 26, and bridging pages 8-9, with the following rewritten paragraph:

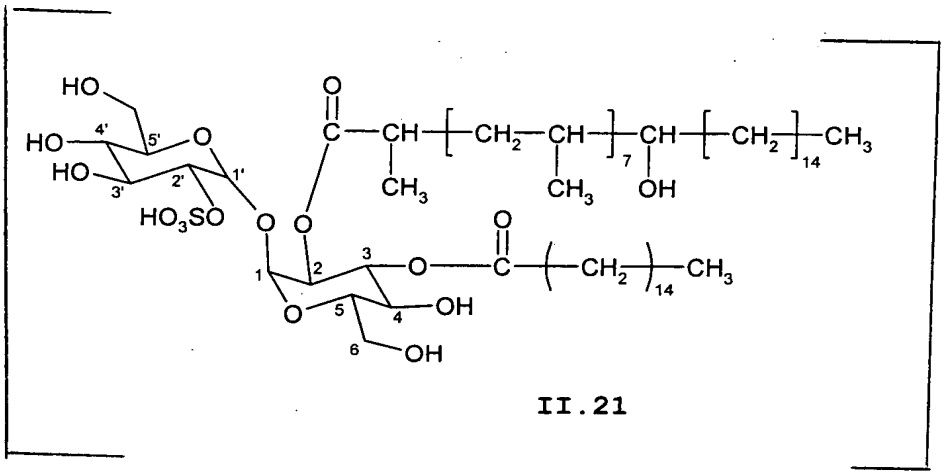
--The invention more specifically relates to compounds of following formulae:



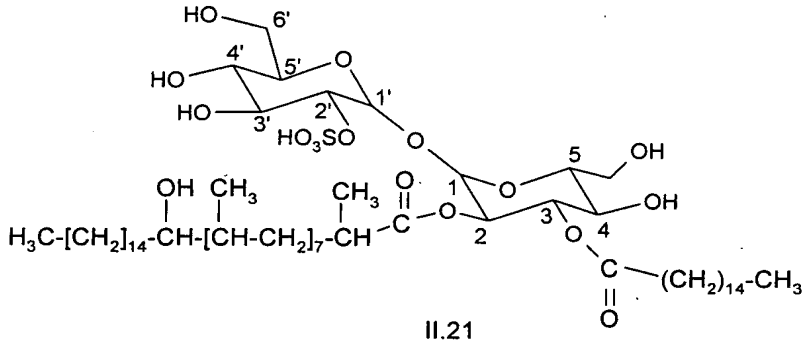
III.21



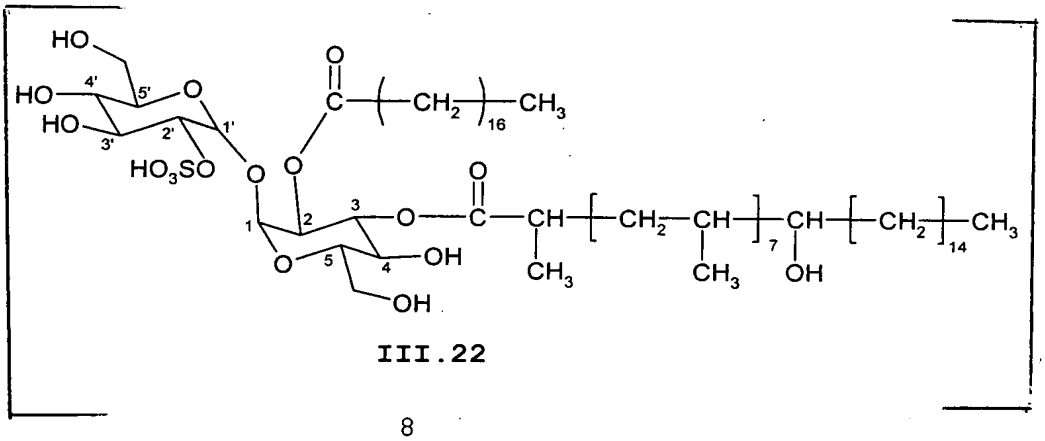
III.21



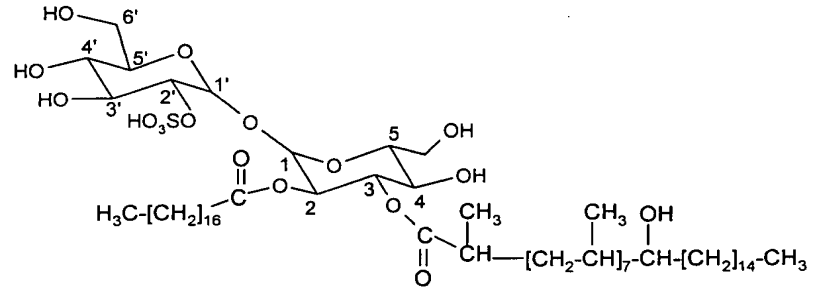
II.21



II.21



III.22



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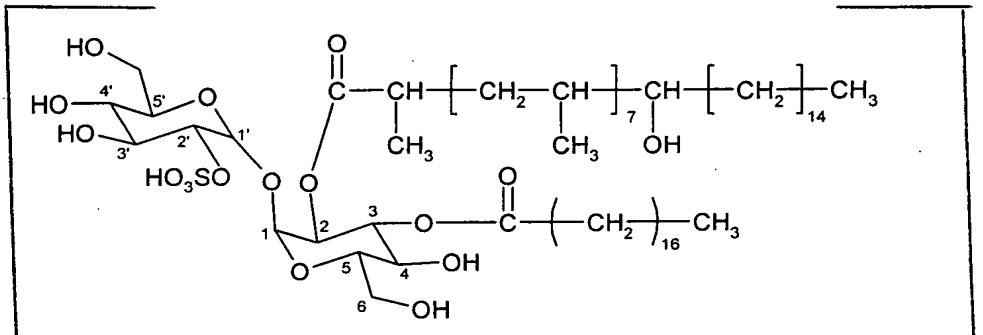
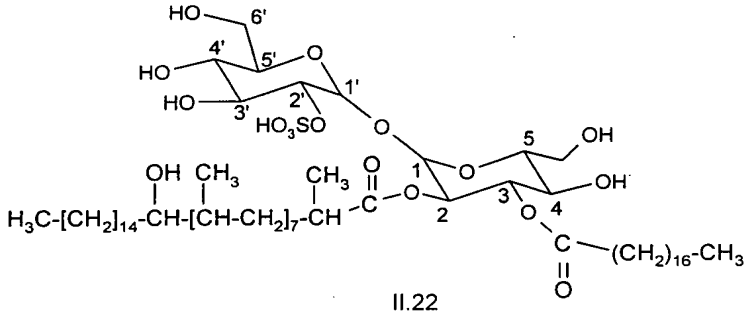
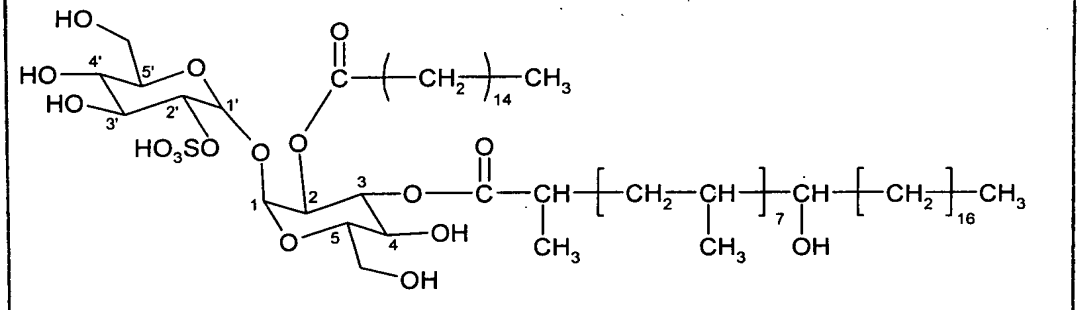


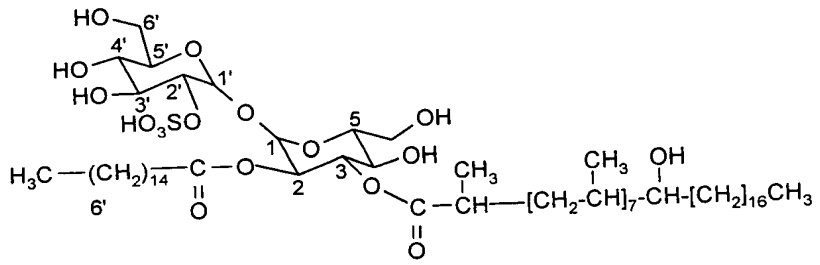
II.22



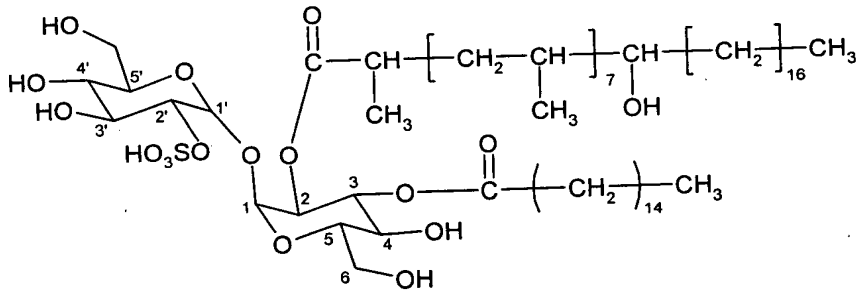
II.22



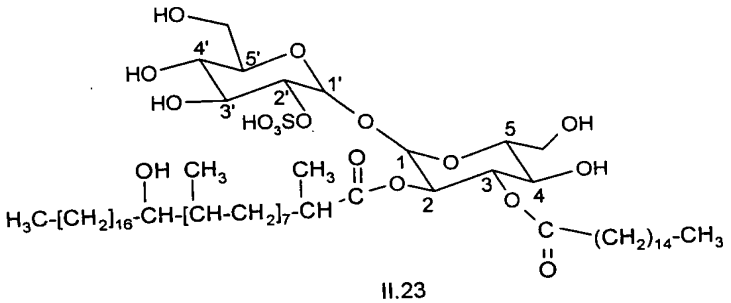
III.23



III.23



II.23

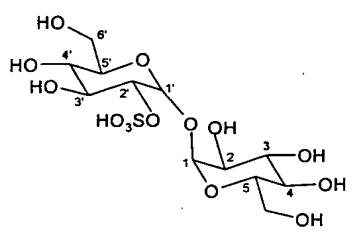


II.23

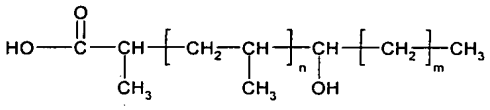
Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 15, line 32, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--The above mentioned mycobacterial extract was concentrated and partitioned between water and chloroform. The

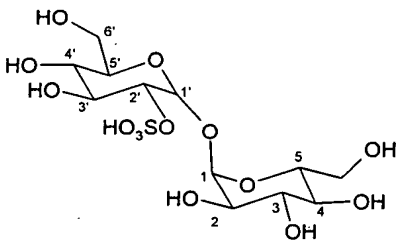
chloroform phase contained most of the envelope lipids and glycolipids as well as the sulfoglycolipids. It was evaporated, and the residue was dissolved in the minimum of chloroform, then acetone was added and the mixture was kept overnight at 4°C. A precipitate was observed and by centrifugation at 4°C for 15 min (3000 x g) an "acetone-insoluble" phase and an "acetone-soluble" phase were obtained. Most of the sulfoglycolipids were found in the "acetone soluble" phase together with other lipids. The sulfoglycolipids were characterized by their behaviour on silica gel thin layer chromatography using chloroform/methanol, 9/1, v/v as migration solvent and were visualized with orcinol staining. In addition, their presence in the "acetone-soluble" phase was unambiguously established from MALDI-Time of Flight-mass spectrometry analysis (MALDI-*Tof*-MS) in negative mode. From the mass spectrum, recorded from 700 to 5000 mass units, mainly three families of sulfoglycolipids were characterized differing by their acylation degree and the fatty acyl appendage structures. The low mass range was mainly dominated by α-α-D-trehalose-2'-sulfate (A) containing two fatty acyl appendages including one hydroxyphthioceranoic acid residue (C) and either one palmitic ($HOOC-(CH_2)_{14}-CH_3$) or stearic acid ($HOOC-(CH_2)_{16}-CH_3$) residue. Beside this sulfoglycolipid, other acyl-forms were observed containing one and two additional hydroxyphthioceranoic acids corresponding to the two other sulfoglycolipids families noticed above.



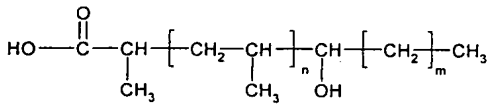
Trehalose-2'-sulfate
A



Hydroxyphthioceranoic acid
C



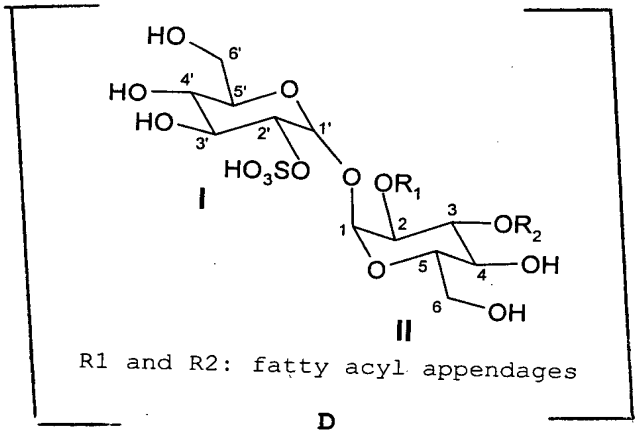
Trehalose-2'-sulfate
A



Hydroxyphthioceranoic acid
C

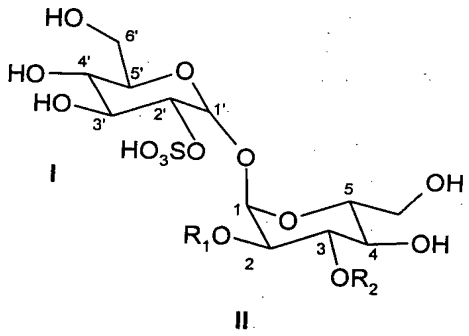
Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 18, line 14, with the following rewritten paragraph:

-- From MALDI MS/MS experiments in positive mode, it was found that the two fatty acid residues were located on the same glucose unit (unit I) while the sulphate group was born by the other glucose moiety (unit II) composing the trehalose (see formula D). These data were supported by one and two dimensional ^{1}H NMR experiments. **Figure 3** shows the one dimensional ^{1}H spectrum. In the anomeric zone, four signals were observed namely I_1, II_1, II_2 and II_3. The resonances I_1 and II_1 typified the two anomeric protons of the α-α-trehalose core, and the resonances II_2 and II_3 were assigned to the H2 and H3 of the glucose moiety II, respectively. The downfield shifts of the H2 and H3 protons indicated that the fatty acyl appendages (hydroxyphthioceranoic acid and palmitic or stearic acids) were located on C2 and C3 of unit II. In addition, from the comparative analysis of the proton chemical shifts of the native sulfoglycolipid and its peracetylated derivative, the sulphate residue was located on the C2' of the glucose I moiety.



R1 and R2: fatty acyl appendages

D



R1 and R2: fatty acyl appendages

D

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